

Part II

**Selected Presentation Slides, Given at the 59th Annual Center
Directors Meeting, Austin, Texas, October 30, 2001**

II.8 University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston,
Center in Environmental Toxicology

Presenter: Jennifer Gorenstein



Environmental Health Training of Promotoras Along the Texas-Mexico Border

- Implementation of bilingual curriculum covering a series of environmental health issues
- Development of asthma module focusing on asthma management and environmental influences on asthma
- Presentation in Texas-Mexico border communities by Dr. Edward Brooks, Director of NIEHS Center Asthma Outreach Program
- Future Directions
 - Develop action plan for communities to address environmental remediation
 - Provide more educational materials

Bench Tutorials

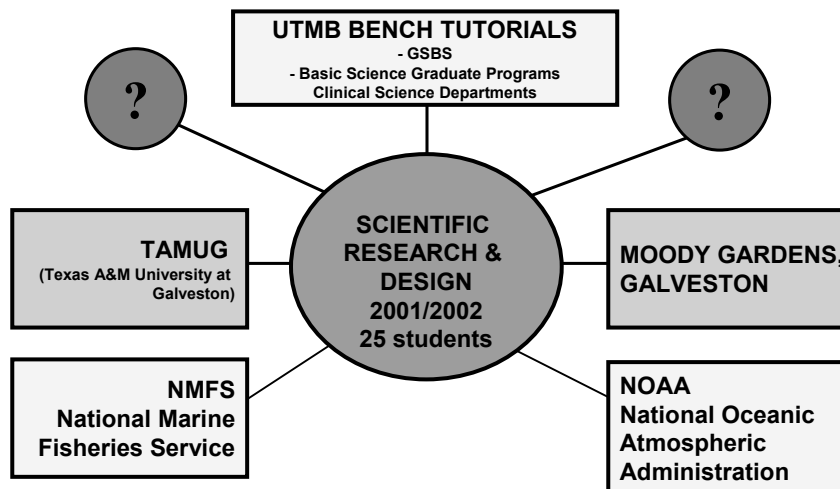
Independent Study in Scientific Research & Design

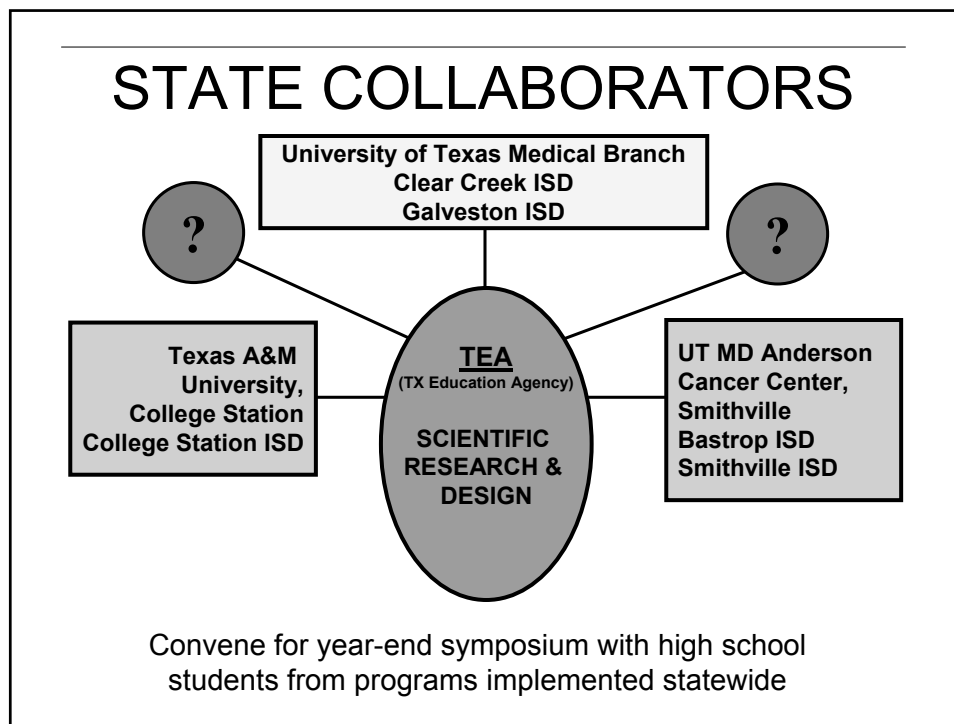
- 1997 - Texas Education Agency creates Scientific Research & Design
- UTMB & Ball High School design Independent study course in biomedical research
- High school juniors and seniors earn one-year full science credit
- Mentored by graduate student or post-doctoral fellow
- 4 hours of supervised instruction weekly
- 4 week training in general molecular biology lab techniques and safety



"Although I fully expect my student to become technically skilled over the course of this project, I strongly believe that the most important skill he can acquire is that of an independent thinker." - Timothy Denning, Department of Microbiology & Immunology

COMMUNITY COLLABORATORS





ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES SUMMER INSTITUTE

FOR K-12 EDUCATORS

(WORKSHOPS IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH)

July 31st - August 3rd 2001

**2001 SUMMER INSTITUTE
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Pop. 350**

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UTMB THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL BRANCH AT GALVESTON



Environmental Health Sciences Summer Institute for K-12 Educators

- Funding provided through NIEHS Administrative Supplement
- Series of one-day workshops to train K-12 teachers on environmental health issues:
 - Cancer, genetics, cell biology, indoor and outdoor air pollution, lead poisoning, water quality and toxicology
- GOALS:
 - Raise awareness of environmental health issues
 - Provide much needed resources and opportunities for teachers
 - Increase availability and improve quality of environmental health science curricular materials used in schools
 - ADVANCE QUALITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION
- COLLABORATION WITH:
 - Rutgers University
 - Texas A&M
 - UTMB
 - UT MD Anderson at Smithville
 - Baylor College of Medicine
 - Southwest Texas State University



Summer Institute - Building a Presence

- 101 participating teachers
- 97% rated Summer Institute as highly valuable and useful
- 10% of all workshop participants use English as a second language
 - (Bilingual workshops were combined with their English counterpart offering either Spanish or English curricular materials to teachers)
- 40% of all participating ISDs are low income, low population density or predominant minority status
- 97% chose to attend to improve knowledge of science
 - Individual workshop content ranked within a range of 1-2.2 on a scale of 1-5 (1 being the highest grade and 5 being the lowest)
- 100% stated they would implement the curriculum, but with slight modifications.
 - Phone interviews will be conducted in spring to ascertain how teachers have integrated the curricula into classroom learning